



# Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

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Lt. Governor

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Director

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1758-MC-FFS

**DATE:** February 1, 2017

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Hospitals (excluding Indian Health Service Providers)

**APPLIES TO:** Managed Care, Fee-for-Service

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Reimbursement of Emergency Room (ER) Visits – CLARIFICATION

**EFFECTIVE:** April 1, 2016

This Informational Letter (IL) is to provide additional clarification and guidance for [IL 1753-MC-FFS](#)<sup>1</sup> issued on December 23, 2016. This IL indicated that triage/assessment CPT codes for use by hospitals in the emergency room were 99211 and 99218. That was incorrect. The only allowable triage/assessment CPT code is 99211. CPT code 99218 is not used for billing triage/assessment services.

The non-emergent ER services reimbursement methodology applies to services provided by critical access hospitals (CAHs). CAHs are reimbursed for outpatient claim service lines using the cost-charge percentage methodology. That percentage is applied to all line items, except for CPT code 99211. Example:

Line #	Revenue Code	Procedure Code	Modifier	Covered Charges	Cost-to-Charge Percentage	Allowed Amount
1	270			\$ 20.00	40.00%	\$ 8.00
2	320	73080	RT	\$120.00	40.00%	\$ 48.00
3	320	73090	RT	\$ 95.00	40.00%	\$ 38.00
4	450	99211		\$ 12.00	40.00%	\$ 4.80
5	450	99283	25	\$300.00	40.00%	\$120.00
Total Allowed Amount						<b>\$218.80</b>
Less: Allowed Amount for Code 99211						\$ (4.80)
<b>Amount Subject to Non-Emergent ER Reduction</b>						<b>\$214.00</b>
Non-Emergent ER Claim Reduction Percentage						50.00%
<b>Subtotal-Adjusted Allowed Amount</b>						<b>\$107.00</b>
Add: Allowed Amount for Code 99211						\$ 4.80
<b>Total-Adjusted Allowed Amount</b>						<b>\$111.80</b>

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or by email at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).

<sup>1</sup> [https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/1753-MC-FFS\\_EmergencyRoomVisits-Reimbursement.pdf](https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/1753-MC-FFS_EmergencyRoomVisits-Reimbursement.pdf)